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CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 96-111

Comments

[NOTE: All citations to “Manual” in the comments below are to the Administrative Rules Procedures Manual, prepared by the Revisor of Statutes Bureau and the Legislative Council Staff, dated October 1994.]

5. Clarity, Grammar, Punctuation and Use of Plain Language

a. The rule uses several different references to children who may be classified as having a “significant development delay” in s. PI 11.35 (2) (L) 1. The reference is to children “ages 3, 4 and 5 years of age”; in s. PI 11.35 (2) (L) 2., the reference is to “a preschooler’s primary disability”; and, in s. PI 11.35 (2) (L) 3., the reference is to a “child below compulsory school attendance age.” It would seem that consistent references would be desirable or that a separate definition of children eligible for the classification would be helpful.

b. In s. PI 11.35 (2) (L) 4. b., the meaning of the last sentence is unclear. Specifically, the phrase “shall be justified” is ambiguous; does it mean that an alternative setting for observation is “permitted” or that, if used, must be “justified”?

c. Is there a need to define the terms “norm-referenced” and “criterion referenced” as used in s. PI 11.35 (2) (L) 4. c.? Alternatively, could the terms be cross-referenced to definitions elsewhere in the Administrative Code?